CLAIMS

[cl]

1. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a method for putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and

causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

[c2]

2. The method of claim 1 further including: maintaining sufficient connection for the communication device for sending an out-of-dormant request.

[c4]

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3. The method of claim 1, wherein the communication device may ignore a godormant order.

4. The method of claim 1, further including:

informing each participating communication device in the network that the net is put in the dormant mode.

5. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a method for putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

receiving a command to enter a dormant mode; and

releasing a traffic channel associated with the communication device in response to the command.

[c6]

6. The method of claim 5 further including:
maintaining sufficient connection for the communication device for sending an out-of-dormant request.

[c7]

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the communication device may ignore a go-dormant order.

[c8]

8. The method of claim 5, further including: informing each participating communication device in the network that the net is put in the dormant mode.

[c9]

9. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a method for bringing the communication device out of a dormant mode, comprising:

receiving a floor-control request; and

bringing the communication device out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.

[c10]

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10. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a computer-readable medium embodying a method for putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and

causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

(C11)

11. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a computer-readable medium embodying a method putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

receiving a command to enter a dormant mode; and releasing a traffic channel associated with the communication device in response to the command.

[c12]

12. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a computer-readable medium embodying a method for bringing the communication device out of a dormant mode, comprising:

receiving a floor-control request; and

bringing the communication device out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.

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13. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising: means for receiving a floor-control request; and

means for bringing the communication device out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.

[c14] 14. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:

means for determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and

means for causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

[c15] 15. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:

means for receiving a command to enter a dormant mode; and

means for releasing a traffic channel associated with the communication device in response to the command.

16. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:

a receiver to receive information over the network;

a transmitter to transmit information over the network; and

a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

determining whether the communication device has been mactive for a predetermined time period; and

causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

[c17] 17. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:

a receiver to receive information over the network;

a transmitter to transmit information over the network; and

a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

receiving a command to enter a dormant mode; and

releasing a traffic channel associated with the communication device in response to the command.

[c18]

- 18. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:
- a receiver to receive information over the network;
- a transmitter to transmit information over the network; and
- a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

receiving a floor-control request; and

bringing the communication device out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.